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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/824,500	04/15/2004	Akihiro Ogasawara	01-619	6569

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POSZ LAW GROUP, PLC
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EXAMINER

BROWN, VERNAL U

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2612

DATE MAILED: 05/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/824,500	Applicant(s) OGASAWARA, AKIHIRO	
	Examiner Vernal U. Brown	Art Unit 2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to communication filed on March 07, 2006

Response to Amendment

The examiner has acknowledged the amendment of claims 1, 4, 9, 11, 12, 13, 18, 24, and the addition of claims 26-27.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-27 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murphy US patent 6232874 in view of Treyz et al. US Patent 6711474.

Regarding claims 1, 11, 13, 15, 24, and 25, Murphy teaches a commanding unit for generating a command of one of a permitting command for permitting a use of a given function of the in-vehicle device and an unpermitting command for unpermitting the use of the given function (vehicle accessories) based on the identification of the user (col. 5 lines 33-60). Murphy

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teaches a controller 179 for controlling the vehicle functions and an authentication unit for verifying the identity of the driver (col. 13 lines 30-45). Murphy is however not explicit in teaching the use of a given function accesses personal information of a user of the vehicle. Treyz et al. in an art related automobile personal computer system teaches controlling the access to a vehicle computer by the use of access code (col. 30 lines 27-45) and the computer is used to received personal information such as e-mails (col. 52 lines 28-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art for the use of a given function accesses personal information in Murphy as evidenced by Treyz et al. because Murphy control access to the vehicle's function and accessories and Treyz teaches controlling access to the vehicle accessories which includes a personal computer containing personal information and the securing of personal information secures the vehicle and its accessories from unauthorized use.

Regarding claims 2 and 17, Murphy teaches permitting the use of a given function after verifying the identity of a person and setting a function of the vehicle accessories (col. 5 lines 33-60) and further teaches a display for permitting browsing of the settings (col. 12 lines 9-14).

Regarding claims 3, 16, Murphy teaches an inputting unit for inputting individual information unique to a user (biometric information) of the vehicle (col. 4 lines 44-55); and a registry storing unit for storing registry information registered by the user (col. 16 lines 1-6), and wherein the authenticating unit successfully executes the authentication process when a given relationship between the individual information and the registry information is fulfilled (col. 5 lines 33-60).

Regarding claims 4 and 18, Murphy teaches storing the execution result in a memory (col. 12 lines 4-8) but is silent on teaching storing the execution result regardless whether the power supply to the in-vehicle device is stopped. Treyz et al. in an art related automobile personal computer system teaches the use of a non-volatile memory (col. 13 lines 46-47) for maintaining information even when the power is stopped.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to store the execution result in the storage unit regardless of whether a power supplied to the in-vehicle device is stopped in Murphy because non-volatile memory retain its stored information when the power supply is stopped in order to enable the system to function properly when power is restored.

Regarding claims 5, 19, Murphy teaches the insertion of key in the vehicle initiate the generation of the command (col. 6 line 60-col. 7 line 17). The key is considered a spare key because it is an alternative means to access the vehicle.

Regarding claims 6, 8, and 20, Murphy teaches a map data storing unit for storing map data including position information relating to positions of facilities on a map defined by the permitted range of vehicle location coordinates (col. 12 lines 20-22, col. 14 lines 42-46); and a position detector for detecting a current position, wherein, when a current position detected by the position detector is a position of a given facility (col. 3 line 52-col. 4 lines 30), the commanding unit generates the unpermitting command for unpermitting of the use of the given function (col. 5 lines 35-38).

Regarding claims 7, 12, and 21, Murphy teaches the command to restrict the operation of the vehicle is determined after the user biometric is received and authenticated (col. 5 lines 33-60). The vehicle device is therefore powered without inserting the key.

Regarding claims 9 and 14, Murphy teaches restricting the use of the vehicle accessories (unpermitting use of a function) and at the same time allow enable the vehicle to travel (col. 5 lines 33-57).

Regarding claims 10 and 22-23, Murphy teaches the vehicle includes a navigation device for detecting the position of the vehicle (col. 3 lines 51-60).

Regarding claims 26-27, Murphy teaches storing navigation information as to the area in which the vehicle is allowed to travel and permitting the user only to travel to and from work (col. 3 lines 44-50). By allowing the user to only travel to and from work suggests the system has personal information regarding the user including information identifying the home of the user in order to restrict the user's travel.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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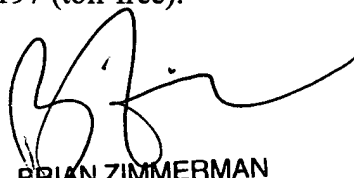
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vernal U. Brown whose telephone number is 571-272-3060. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-7:00 Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 571-272-7308. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Vernal Brown
May 2, 2006



BRIAN ZIMMERMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER